

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Kathy Fleming, Director of Local Resources and Community Partnerships
Danielle Perez, BSEP Program Specialist
DATE: December 18, 2024
SUBJECT: Election and Activity Report for School Site Councils for the 2024-25 School Year

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Each year the Board receives a report on the elections and membership of the School Site Councils (SSCs) for all BUSD schools, including the Pre-K Program, the TK-8 schools, Berkeley Technology Academy (BTA), the Independent Study (BIS) Program, and Berkeley High School. This report was presented to the BSEP Planning and Oversight Committee on December 17, 2024.

School principals were surveyed to collect information on each site's election process , including candidate outreach, nominations, and election mechanisms.

Candidate outreach and recruitment: Schools solicited parent candidates using digital and paper resources, including:

- Distributing digital and paper flyers with site and district committee information in both Spanish and English;
- Messaging to encourage participation, with online nomination forms, via email, e-tree, and other educational communications apps;
- Conducting in person recruitment and outreach by principals, current, and/or former committee members, and Family Engagement Specialists.

Teacher and staff candidates were solicited by principals using the following methods:

- Providing a description of the committee and requests for nominations at staff meetings;
- Sending requests for nominations through email messages to staff lists; and
- Conducting in person recruitment and outreach to potential candidates.

In an effort to give principals useful tools in recruitment and election processes, the Office of Local Resources provided standardized materials in 2024-25, including:

- Presented a Committee Recruitment, Nomination, and Election Workshop for principals in late August;
- Distributed English/Spanish recruitment flyers describing the SSC and other common BUSD committees to principals;
- Developed templates for digital nomination and voting forms in English and Spanish for parent, certificated, and classified staff SSC positions; vote tally; and results documents.

Sites continue to utilize various committee and election structures to encourage increased participation in their committees, including slate voting, staggered 2-year membership terms, and decision-making by consensus.

School Site Council Elections Report 2024-25

Parent/Guardian Voting: Most parent/guardian elections were held using digital ballots, which were distributed via direct email messages, as links from e-tree communications, and through notifications using educational apps like Remind. Paper ballots were also offered at some sites, in addition to the electronic ballots. The BSEP Program Specialist was available to assist with counting and recording ballots for sites that requested extra help. Most sites managed all aspects of vote counting independently and reported results back to district leadership via 2024-25 SSC roster documents.

Student representatives are elected to the Berkeley High SSC, in addition to parent/guardian and staff members. At BHS, student members were elected by the entire student body during the regular Associated Student Body elections in the Spring of 2024.

Staff Voting: Selection of staff SSC members was mainly conducted via voting during staff meetings and via online voting.

District SSC Roster: Attached as Appendix A is a roster of the parents/guardians, students, teachers, principals, and other staff members who have made the commitment to serve on their school's SSC in 2024-25.

Committee Member Education: The district's annual Committee Orientation event was held online via Zoom on October 1, 2024, with 12 panelists and 124 attendees. The Orientation was simultaneously interpreted into Spanish on a dedicated Spanish-language channel within the Zoom meeting. Pre-recorded committee training videos are posted on BUSD's [committee training page](#), where committee members and the general public can also access a recording of the online Orientation event and the slides presented therein. Further, the training page features links to specific information for each school and program, including complete 2024-25 School Plans and Budget Summaries, a multi-year funding summary for each site containing student enrollment data and site budgets from the past eight years, and exercises to help committee members practice analyzing site historical data and evaluating site-funded budget items.

The training page also features the [BUSD Committee Handbook](#), which includes:

- Best Practices, updated suggested annual calendars, meeting documentation examples, and an updated dictionary of key BUSD acronyms and terms;
- K-8 and BHS SSC bylaws;
- Guides summarizing school committees and the various funds they oversee, including descriptions of BSEP, LCAP, and Title I resources;
- Guidelines and examples of the SPSA Evaluation form for SSCs;
- In response to requests from SSC members, guidance about decision-making and deadlines related to site funding of staff salaries; and
- Examples from within BUSD of methods for sharing committee, school plan, and budget information with the broader school community.

SSCs were asked to hold their October meeting in conjunction with the Orientation event. Each principal hosted their own SSC meeting immediately following the district-wide presentation. Principals were asked in advance whether they would like brief visits from District Office staff during these meetings, to offer support and

answer questions. The Director of Local Resources and the BSEP Program Specialist visited three separate SSC meetings that evening, providing input when requested.

POLICY/CODE:

California Education Code 65000-65001; BUSD School Site Council Bylaws, adopted by the Berkeley Board of Education September 12, 2018; BUSD Berkeley High School Site Council Bylaws, adopted by the Berkeley Board of Education February 19, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Receive this School Site Council Election, Diversity and Activity Report for 2024-25.

Appendix A		
Berkeley Unified School District		
School Site Council Members		
for the 2024-25 School Year		
as of 12/4/24		
School	Parents	Staff
Pre-K Program	Molly Avirett	Madeleine Rogin (Principal)
	Brittany Serrano	Pamela Gelman
	Shawn Brown	Bonita Walker
	Torrey Mansur	Deborah Thies
	Geetha Doddapaneni	Janette Wafer
	Eliphaz Mazia (Alt.)	
Arts Magnet	Chilezie Nnadi	Rene Molina (Principal)
	Brit Toven Lidsey	Cory Potts
	Jamie Brunetti	Sumita Soni
	Carrie Kabat	Andrea Ambrose
	Melina Landry	Michele Ferrell
	Jessi Librande	Nabateh Ahmed
Cragmont	Glendy Perez	Candyce Cannon (Principal)
	Lindsay Nofelt	Pamela Diebel
	Aaron Atlas	Kellie McElhaney
	Aaron Hesterman	Sheyla Flores
	Dianna Mullins	Jasmine McCrory
Emerson	Kojo Ako Asare	Jana Holmes (Principal)
	Jeffery Cross	Katie Campbell Lewis
	Nancy Gage	Michelle Luu
	Diana Gordon	Marie - Eve Thomaes
	Karla Schlags	Lily Powell
	Shahram Aarabi (Alt.)	Karen Carter (Alt.)
	Lateshya Johnson (Alt.)	Anna Stuppi (Alt.)
Ruth Acty	Kelly Scribner	Mary Cazden (Principal)
	Mia Arakaki	Seoanid Dickinsion
	Tess Frugé	Rick Kleine
	Priti Sanghani	Lisa Rossi
	Megan Bowers	Celia Flores Delgado
		Lency Olsen (Alt.)

School	Parents	Staff
John Muir	Heather Rose Dodge	Paco Furlan (Principal)
	Jaclyn Goudie	Michael Fowler
	Kartikay Mehrotra	Debbie Rogers
	Jen Darmstadt-Holm	Simone Miller
	David Haley	Jocelyn Foreman
	Irina Lozhkina (Alt.)	
Malcolm X	Balark Mallik	Alex Hunt (Principal)
	Monica Jones	Mary Martin
	Alex Fontana	Sharon Murphy
	Subhadeep Sarker	Jila Abdolhosseini
	Erin Holland	Jocelyn Foreman
Oxford	Brett Berning	Elizabeth Cornwell (Principal)
	Daphnee St. Pierre	Zora Raskin
	Jaffer Abbasi	Erik Danielson
	Hanna Melnick	Mike Della Penna
	Rebecca Weissman	Dierdre Sproul
Rosa Parks	Ivi Kolasi	Susanne Reed (Principal)
	Josh Bukstein	Michelle Contreras
	Lilly Green	Viridiana Castro Silva
	Maricela Byrd-Flores	Kari O'Connor
	Michelle Ralston	Nabatah Ahmed
	Monica Knapp (Alt.)	
	Yamidé Carr (Alt.)	
Sylvia Mendez	Carrie Rybczynski	Maria Carriedo (Principal)
	Rogelio Gamez	Regina Santa Cruz
	Yvette Perez	Denisse Perez Estrada
	Karen Weidert	Liliana Aguas
	Erin Egan	Gaddy Barbero-Reyes
	Alina Ball (Alt)	
Thousand Oaks	Amanda Mozes	Gabe Fredman (Principal)
	Katy Reese	Bill Briggs
	Aura Navichoque	Michelle Yglecias
	Jennifer Singler	Teagan Fish
	Emma Spertus	Ernesto Marin
	Kendra Feeley (Alt)	Mandy Kramer (Alt)
	Erica Yelensky (Alt)	

School	Parents	Staff
Washington	Shawna Ota	Joshua Heideman (Principal)
	Laura Valdez	Alyssa Hudson
	Jennifer Sharma	Oscar Zarate
	Cristina Luna	Ashleigh Talbott
	Ritu Sen	Lois Jones
Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School	Peter Ross	Michael Tison Yee (Principal)
	Heather Gilbert	Kelsey Casas
	Megan McQuaid	Ron Chung
	Hollis Williams	Josh Jacobs
	Megan Werner	Tania Hernandez
	Rebecca Leshowitz (Alt.)	Sarah Fan (Alt.)
	Arabelle Malinis (Alt.)	Yesenia Moran (Alt.)
Longfellow Middle School	Sophina Jones	Salita Mitchell (Principal)
	Mina Sun	Crystal Paschel
	Kacy Robinson	Michael McEvoy
	Jaime Brunetti	Mia Villanueva
	Molly Christiansen	La Tasha Mitchell
	Brit Toven-Lindsey (Alt)	Susannah Fishman (Alt)
	Lindsay Nofelt (Alt)	Rebeca Torres Avila (Alt.)
Willard Middle School	Scott Hofmeister	Alex Billotte (Principal)
	Clara Bijil	Chloe Smith
	Max Sell	Denise Milner
	Erin Holland	Benjamin Jackson
	Juliana Fredman	Kimberly Wright Smith
		Joemi Byrd (Alt.)

Berkeley Technology Academy SSC		
Parents	Students	Staff
Jackie White	Alex Ochoa	Heidi Weber (Principal)
	Nina Camerino	Sophina Jones
	Abby Starkey (Alt.)	Erica Johnson
	Leysha Garcia Covas (Alt.)	
Berkeley Independent Study SSC		
Parents	Students	Staff
Tamara Mays	Isaiah Mays	Heidi Weber (Principal)
		Barry Harris
		Erica Johnson (Alt.)
Berkeley High SSC		
Parents	Students	Staff
Michelle Wolfson	Lenka Simon	Keldon Clegg (Principal's Designee)
Nicole Chabot	Sifora Kahsay	Devon Brewer
Mati Teiblum	Hani Khayatei Houssaini	Loriann Casillas
Vicki Davis (Alt.)	Maya Dang (Alt.)	Aaron Glimme
Rebecca Levenson (Alt.)	Andrew Regan (Alt.)	Stephanie Schaudel
		Tobi Stein